

Appl. No.: 10/633,106	Agent Docket: JS03-001
Amdt. Dated: 8/23/2005	Reply to Office action of 05/23/2005

**In the Claims:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1    1. (Amended) A tension adjusting device attached to an axle member of a driven  
2       wheel of a vehicle and coupled to a forked frame member ~~to adjust for adjusting~~  
3       a tension of a flexible power transmission means that transfers power from a  
4       drive shaft of said vehicle to said driven wheel, said tension adjusting device  
5       comprising:

6                 a first tension adjuster joined to a first side of said axle member, said first  
7       tension adjuster comprising:

8                 a first adjustment plate having a first dimension to slidably engage a  
9       guide recess of a first fork of said forked frame member and a  
10      second dimension sufficient to support a first axle fastener to said  
11      axle member to said first adjustment plate, said first adjustment  
12      plate including:

13                 an extending member that extends over an end of said first fork,  
14                 an axle bore through which said first side of said axle member  
15       passes to receive the first axle fastener to secure said axle  
16       member to said first adjustment plate and couple said first  
17       adjustment plate to said first fork of said forked frame  
18       member, and

Appl. No.: 10/633,106	Agent Docket: JS03-001
Amdt. Dated: 8/23/2005	Reply to Office action of 05/23/2005

19                   a capturing recess inlet into said first adjustment plate to secure  
20                   first axle fastener to prevent movement of said first axle  
21                   fastener during the coupling of the driven wheel, and  
22                   an adjustment bore through said extending member, said  
23                   adjuster bore aligned with said end of said first fork, and  
24                   a first adjustment stud affixed through said adjustment bore to said first  
25                   adjustment plate such that said adjustment stud is in contact with  
26                   the end of said first fork to allow the axle member of the driven  
27                   wheel to move in an adjustment slot within said guide recess to  
28                   adjust the tension of the power transmission means;  
29                   a second tension adjuster joined to a second side of said axle member,  
30                   said second tension adjuster comprising:  
31                   a second adjustment plate having a first dimension to slidably engage  
32                   a guide recess of a second fork of said forked frame member and a  
33                   second dimension sufficient to support a second axle fastener to  
34                   said axle member to said second adjustment plate, said second  
35                   adjustment plate including:  
36                   an extending member that extends over an end of said second  
37                   fork,

Appl. No.: 10/633,106	Agent Docket: JS03-001
Amdt. Dated: 8/23/2005	Reply to Office action of 05/23/2005

38                         an axle bore through which said second side of said axle  
39                         member passes to receive the second axle fastener to  
40                         secure said axle member to said second adjustment plate  
41                         and couple said second adjustment plate to said second fork  
42                         of said forked frame member, and  
  
43                         an adjustment bore through said extending member, said  
44                         adjuster bore aligned with said end of said second fork, and  
  
45                         a second adjustment stud affixed through said adjustment bore to said  
46                         second adjustment plate such that said adjustment stud is in  
47                         contact with the end of said second fork to allow the axle member  
48                         of the driven wheel to move in an adjustment slot within said guide  
49                         recess to adjust the tension of the power transmission means.

- 1                         2. (Amended) The tension adjusting device of claim 1 wherein said tension  
2                         adjusting device is used to replace an original equipment tension adjusting  
3                         device integrated within said forked frame member and placed forward of the  
4                         axle member within said guide recesses of the first and second forks.
  
- 1                         3. (Amended) The tension adjusting device of claim 1 wherein the first and second  
2                         adjustment plates are formed of materials selected from the group of materials  
3                         comprising consisting of steel, aluminum, titanium and carbon epoxy.

Appl. No.: 10/633,106	Agent Docket: JS03-001
Amdt. Dated: 8/23/2005	Reply to Office action of 05/23/2005

- 1    4. (Original) The tension adjusting device of claim 1 wherein the first tension
- 2                 adjuster further comprises a captivating nut secured to the first adjustment plate
- 3                 within said adjustment bore to accept said first adjustment stud.
- 1    5. (Original) The tension adjusting device of claim 1 wherein the second tension
- 2                 adjuster further comprises a captivating nut secured to the second adjustment
- 3                 plate within said adjustment bore to accept said second adjustment stud.
- 1    6. (Original) The tension adjusting device of claim 1 wherein the first and second
- 2                 adjustment studs are threaded and include a securing nut which, when said first
- 3                 and second adjusting studs have moved said driven wheel such that said flexible
- 4                 power transmission means has a correct tension, said securing nut for the first
- 5                 and second adjustment studs are placed to lock said first and second adjustment
- 6                 studs respectively to the first and second adjustment plates.
- 1    7. (Amended) The tension adjusting device of claim 1 wherein the first and second
- 2                 adjustment plates each include at least one guide marking placed to insure that
- 3                 the axel-axle member is oriented with respect to said forked frame member.
- 1    8. (Amended) The tension adjusting device of claim 1 wherein the flexible power
- 2                 transmission means is selected from the group of transmission means consisting
- 3                 of a chain and said chain is engaged with teeth of a sprocket coupled to said
- 4                 driven wheel and a belt placed on a pulley coupled to said driven wheel.
- 1    9. (Cancelled)

Appl. No.: 10/633,106	Agent Docket: JS03-001
Amtd. Dated: 8/23/2005	Reply to Office action of 05/23/2005

1    10. (Amended) A tension adjusting device attached to an axle member of a driven  
2    wheel of a vehicle and coupled to a forked frame member to adjust for adjusting  
3    tension of a flexible power transmission means that transfers power from a drive  
4    shaft of said vehicle to said driven wheel, said tension adjusting device  
5    comprising:  
  
6         a tension adjuster joined to one side of said axle member, said first  
7         tension adjuster comprising:  
  
8             an adjustment plate with a first dimension to slidably engage a guide  
9             recess of a fork of said forked frame member and a second  
10          dimension sufficient to support an axle fastener to said axle  
11          member to said adjustment plate, said adjustment plate including:  
  
12             an extending member that extends over an end of said fork,  
13             an axle bore through which said side of said axle member  
14             passes to receive the axle fastener to secure said axle  
15             member to said first adjustment plate and couple said first  
16             adjustment plate to said first fork of said forked frame  
17             member, and  
  
18             an adjustment bore through said extending member, said  
19             adjuster bore aligned with said end of said fork, and

Appl. No.: 10/633,106	Agent Docket: JS03-001
Arndt. Dated: 8/23/2005	Reply to Office action of 05/23/2005

20                   a first adjustment stud affixed through said adjustment bore to said  
21                   adjustment plate such that said adjustment stud is in contact with  
22                   the end of said fork to allow the axle member of the driven wheel to  
23                   move in an adjustment slot within said guide recess to adjust the  
24                   tension of the power transmission means.

1     11. (Original) The tension adjusting device of claim 10 wherein the adjustment plate  
2                   further comprises:

3                   a capturing recess inlet into said adjustment plate that secures said axle  
4                   fastener to prevent movement of said axle fastener during the coupling  
5                   of the driven wheel.

1     12. (Amended) The tension adjusting device of claim 10 wherein said tension  
2                   adjusting device is used to replace an original equipmnt tension adjusting device  
3                   integrated within said forked frame member and placed forward of the axle  
4                   member within said guide recesses of the first and second forks.

1     13. (Amended) The tension adjusting device of claim 10 wherein the adjustment  
2                   plates are formed of materials selected from the group of materials comprising  
3                   consisting of steel, aluminum, titanium and carbon epoxy.

1     14. (Original) The tension adjusting device of claim 10 wherein the tension adjuster  
2                   further comprises a captivating nut secured to the first adjustment plate within  
3                   said adjustment bore to accept said first adjustment stud.

Appl. No.: 10/633,106	Agent Docket: JS03-001
Amdt. Dated: 8/23/2005	Reply to Office action of 05/23/2005

1       15. (Original) The tension adjusting device of claim 10 wherein the adjustment stud is  
2                  threaded and includes a securing nut which, when said adjusting stud has moved  
3                  said driven wheel such that said flexible power transmission means has a correct  
4                  tension, said securing nut for the adjustment stud is placed to lock said  
5                  adjustment stud to the adjustment plate.

1       16. (Amended) The tension adjusting device of claim 10 wherein the adjustment  
2                  plates include at least one guide marking placed to insure that the axel-axle  
3                  member is oriented with respect to said forked frame member.

1       17. (Amended) The tension adjusting device of claim 10 wherein the flexible power  
2                  transmission means is selected from the group of power transmission means  
3                  consisting of a chain and said chain is engaged with teeth of a sprocket coupled  
4                  to said driven wheel and a belt placed on a pulley coupled to said driven wheel.

1       18. (Cancelled)

1       19. (Amended) A method ~~to replace an original equipment tension adjusting device~~  
2                  ~~attached to an axle member of a driven wheel of a vehicle and coupled to a~~  
3                  ~~forked frame member to adjust for adjusting~~ tension of a flexible power  
4                  transmission means that transfers power from a drive shaft of said vehicle to said  
5                  driven wheel, said method comprising the steps of:

6                  ~~removing said original equipment tension adjusting device from said~~  
7                  ~~forked frame member and said axle member;~~

Appl. No.: 10/633,106	Agent Docket: JS03-001
Amtd. Dated: 8/23/2005	Reply to Office action of 05/23/2005

8                   providing a replacement tension adjusting device, said replacement  
9                   tension adjusting device comprising:  
10                  a first tension adjuster joined to a first side of said axle member, said  
11                  first tension adjuster comprising:  
12                  a first adjustment plate having a first dimension to slidably  
13                  engage a guide recess of a first fork of said forked frame  
14                  member and a second dimension sufficient to support a first  
15                  axle fastener to said axle member to said first adjustment  
16                  plate, said first adjustment plate including:  
17                  an extending member that extends over an end of said first  
18                  fork,  
19                  an axle bore through which said first side of said axle  
20                  member passes to receive the first axle fastener to  
21                  secure said axle member to said first adjustment plate  
22                  and couple said first adjustment plate to said first fork of  
23                  said forked frame member,  
24                  a capturing recess inlet into said first adjustment plate to  
25                  secure a first axle fastener to prevent movement of said  
26                  first axle fastener during the coupling of the driven wheel,  
27                  and

Appl. No.: 10/633,106	Agent Docket: JS03-001
Amtd. Dated: 8/23/2005	Reply to Office action of 05/23/2005

an adjustment bore through said extending member, said adjuster bore aligned with said end of said first fork, and a first adjustment stud affixed through said adjustment bore to said first adjustment plate such that said adjustment stud is in contact with the end of said first fork to allow the axle member of the driven wheel to move in an adjustment slot within said guide recess to adjust the tension of the power transmission means;

a second tension adjuster joined to a second side of said axle member, said second tension adjuster comprising:

a second adjustment plate having a first dimension to slidably engage a guide recess of a second fork of said forked frame member and a second dimension sufficient to support a second axle fastener to said axle member to said second adjustment plate, said second adjustment plate including:

an extending member that extends over an end of said second fork,

an axle bore through which said second side of said axle member passes to receive the second axle fastener to secure said axle member to said second adjustment

<b>Appl. No.: 10/633,106</b>	<b>Agent Docket: JS03-001</b>
<b>Amdt. Dated: 8/23/2005</b>	<b>Reply to Office action of 05/23/2005</b>

Appl. No.: 10/633,106	Agent Docket: JS03-001
Amdt. Dated: 8/23/2005	Reply to Office action of 05/23/2005

67 respectively with the ends of first and second ends of the forked  
68 frame member;

69 modifying placement of said driven wheel to adjust the flexible power  
70 transmission means to a preliminary tension; and

71 varying the first and second adjustment studs to move said driven  
72 wheel incrementally to adjust the flexible power transmission  
73 means to a final tension.

1 20. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein the first and second adjustment plates  
2 are formed of materials selected from the group of materials comprising steel,  
3 aluminum, titanium and carbon epoxy.

1 21. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein the first tension adjuster further  
2 comprises a captivating nut secured to the first adjustment plate within said  
3 adjustment bore to accept said first adjustment stud.

1 22. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein the second tension adjuster further  
2 comprises a captivating nut secured to the second adjustment plate within said  
3 adjustment bore to accept said second adjustment stud.

1 23. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein the first and second adjustment studs  
2 are threaded and include a securing nut.

1        24. (Amended) The method of claim 23 further comprising the step of adjusting said  
2        securing nuts for locking said first and second adjustment studs respectively to  
3        the first and second adjustment plates ~~with said securing nut~~, when said first and  
4        second adjusting studs have moved said driven wheel such that said flexible  
5        power transmission means has the final tension.

1        25. (Amended) The method of claim 19 further comprising the step of providing guide  
2        markings on wherein the first and second adjustment plates each include at least  
3        one guide marking placed for alignment with calibration marks of said forked  
4        frame member to insure that the axle-axe member is correctly oriented with  
5        respect to said forked frame member.

1        26. (Amended) The method of claim 25 wherein varying the first and second  
2        adjustment studs to move said driven wheel incrementally comprises the steps  
3        of:  
4              selectively adjusting one of the first and second adjustment studs to move  
5              said driven wheel such that the flexible power transmission means is at  
6              the final tension;  
7              noting location of the axle member within the forked frame member by  
8              location of said guide markings; and  
9              adjusting the other of the first and second adjustment studs to move said  
10          axle member to align with guide markings.

Appl. No.: 10/633,106	Agent Docket: JS03-001
Amdt. Dated: 8/23/2005	Reply to Office action of 05/23/2005

1    27. (Amended)The method of claim 19 wherein the flexible power transmission  
2        means is selected from the group of power transmission means consisting of a  
3        ~~chain and said chain is engaged with teeth of a sprocket coupled to said driven~~  
4        ~~wheel and a belt placed on a pulley coupled to said driven wheel.~~

1    28. (Cancelled)

2    29. (New)The method of claim 19 further comprising the step of:  
3        removing an original equipment tension adjusting device attached  
4        to said axle member and coupled to said forked frame member.